

# The Observer

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SAINT JOSEPH'S COLLEGE

JAN 30 1997

RENSSELAER, IN 47978

opinion news features sports stuff

## news briefs

### Grotto vandalized

During Christmas break, several persons vandalized the Grotto area. Damage to the Grotto included red paint poured on a statue, a pentagram drawn on the floor, and damage to some of the stones.

The crime was committed on January 8, 1997. The vandals were caught by security. Damage estimates have not yet been figured due to the weather and other circumstances.

### Martin Luther King honored

On Monday, January 20, the campus paid tribute to the life and work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The Office of Multicultural Affairs (OMA) and the Minority Student Union (MSU) sponsored a number of events in celebration of the contributions of King.

"Remembering the Dream" was the theme for the events which started in Halleck with a prayer service. A panel discussion was held where speakers addressed current and past issues.

The Faculty Fine Arts Committee commemorated the work of King by sponsoring videos about King and the Civil Rights Movement on WPUM.

compiled by Jeff Kirch  
and Julia Garcia

## College receives Lilly SA officers announce plans grant for \$1,724,000

by Natalie Berenda

Saint Joseph's College is the recipient of a generous amount of money provided by the Lilly Endowment "Special Initiative" program.

The Lilly Endowment is very concerned with the high percentage of Indiana students who decide not to further their education after high school. As the result of this concern, Lilly decided the best thing to do would be invest their money in the young people of Indiana. By I.R.S. law, they must give a certain percent of money away each year.

Lilly invited thirteen private Indiana colleges to submit a proposal on how the endowment would be used if granted to their school. Co-directors of the Lilly Endowment "Special Initiative" Proposal, Dr. John Nichols and Dr. David Chattin, submitted a proposal that would later grant Saint Joseph's College \$1,724,000.

The endowment will be used for three different purposes over the course of four and a half years. One area the money will be used in is the recruiting program.

By June 30, 2001, SJC proposes to add 105 students each year to the enrollments from 12 high schools. SJC will do this by setting up partnerships with three high schools each year ending with 12. A staff from SJC will then assist students from these

high schools in choosing which college they wish to attend. By 2001, SJC plans on increasing our own freshman enrollment to 275 students from what is now at roughly 200.

The college will also work on retaining more students until graduation. SJC will be adding two professional staff members to Counseling Services. The entire second floor in the Halleck Center will be remodeled for Counseling Services and Placement. The college will install a new data base for purposes of checking student progress.

The third thing SJC would like to do is place more Indiana graduates in Indiana jobs. The college wants students to receive quality educations that will find them quality jobs. SJC will be introducing one new major and will upgrade four others.

Saint Joseph's College will introduce a computer network that will link students, alumni, and employers. The endowment proposal stated that work experiences and "experiential transcripts" will be built into academic programs.

"The key administrators implementing the proposal were John Nichols and Dave Chattin. This is a grant that was given to the institution because of the work of a lot of people," said SJC President Albert Shannon.



photo by Cynthia Stanko

Dusek and Peterson prepare for a Senate meeting.

by Jeff Kirch

The 1997 Student Association executive officers were elected before Christmas break. Bob Dusek, junior, was elected President and Jill Peterson, junior, was elected Vice President. Nicole Lukowski and Dan Klimczak were elected Secretary and Treasurer, respectively.

The first Student Senate meeting was held January 20. During this meeting, committee members were elected and nominations for Senate President were opened.

In addition to the regular business, Dusek and his administration laid out tentative plans for the upcoming year. These plans range from Lake Banet and Rec Center improvements to Student Association-sponsored television programming. Suggestions have been made to add recreational equipment to the Lake Banet area and to add exercise bikes to the Rec Center. "In addition to new exercise equipment, a stereo would be a valuable improvement to the Rec Center," according to Dusek.

Dusek is also considering a Day Student Contact Line. "This would be a '1-800' number that day students can call and get cancellation notices and related information. This was sparked by a day student concerned about people wasting a trip in the cold," Dusek said.

Dusek does not believe his being a day student will adversely affect his administration. He said, "If anything, it will cause me to listen more intently, because I am not an expert on campus life here, like most students living here."

Dusek will be assisted by Peterson, a resident student. Peterson said, "Our administration plans to form new opportunities for the STUDENT, such as building campus unity among dorms. The other officers and myself have a good working relationship; we have our minds set on creating a commitment to our institution."

"We [the new administration] are looking forward to working with each other and the Student Senate this next year. We hope everyone feels the same about working with us," Dusek said.



## Biased media coverage of march angers pro-life student

by Elizabeth Lieb

I participated in the pro-life march in Washington, D.C. last Wednesday. I knew that there would be many people there, but I was really surprised by the huge crowds I saw. People from all over the country were there; families with babies, priests and nuns, college and youth groups all walked together in a peaceful support of life.

When I got home and watched the national news, I was angered by the media's obviously biased coverage of the event. Tens of thousands of people came to Washington for the march. As I stood on Capitol Hill looking down Constitution Avenue, there were pro-life marchers as far as I could see. This was an unbelievable amount of

people; I was impressed that so many had come, especially in the middle of the week.

But watching the news later that night, I heard little mention of the immense numbers of marchers. The TV cameras showed the first moments of the march, but did not describe the huge crowds. I'm sure that if this had been a march in support of education or the environment, the media would have given the event a great deal more coverage, even if there were fewer people there.

On all three of the news reports I watched that night, the pro-life march received very limited coverage. Instead, most reports flashed the march on the screen, and promptly switched to reports

on the Atlanta abortion clinic bombing, Vice-President Gore's speech to the National Abortion Rights Action League, and the candlelight vigil of the National Organization of Women. Extensive sections of Gore's speech were shown, and abortion supporters were interviewed by the press. Newspaper articles did the same. I realize the media has an obligation to show both sides of the issue, but in this case, the size of the pro-life march warranted much more coverage by the press.

On ABC, about five seconds of the pro-life march were shown, and then the reporter began to speak of the bombing in Atlanta, as if the two were connected. Those

who marched in Washington were advocating a peaceful attempt to ban abortion, NOT violent acts aimed at scaring people away from clinics. The media seemed to link the two groups by reporting on both in the same news segment.

The media's bias is making it difficult for the pro-lifers to get their message across. By limiting press coverage and instead focusing on bombs and pro-abortion speeches, the media has shown which side they support. Opponents of abortion are forced to work twice as hard to get their views out to the public and to legislators, and also to counteract the media's view of pro-lifers as fanatical or violent protesters.

## Men of Noll Hall feel Dennis Rodman's pain

by John Osborne

A common complaint (among others) heard from Saint Joseph's dorm residents is that they are excessively fined for ridiculous floor damages. Granted, much of the time students complain gratuitously, out of boredom, or for the mere sake of complaining, but when it comes to the ludicrous definition and outrageous prices of dorm damages, the students might have a legitimate complaint.

Consider the case of Noll Hall. This past week the fines for the month of December were handed out. The total cost to residents was just under \$1500. That brings this year's total up to 1000% over last year's. Keep in mind also that Noll Hall is not filled to capacity and that the students were not even on campus the last twelve days of December (when some of the heaviest fines were dished out). This is not to say that some of the fines are not called for. Some of the most serious damages were things that could have been avoided such as: broken or missing furniture, broken light bulbs (which by the way were replaced by the dorm residents, but they were still fined for it), damaged fire extinguishers, and missing *No Smoking* signs. However, very few of these things are what has got the men of Noll angry. It is the stupid fines such as: excessive trash (what the hell does that mean?), spit on the stall door, TP on the floor, cigarette butts on the floor, trash outside (it could have been left there by anyone), or the best of them all trashcan urinated in (who stuck his nose down there to determine that one?).

Unless the definition of cleaning people has changed, they are supposed to clean, and asking them to pick up a cigarette butt or some toilet paper off the floor or wash some noodles down the sink should not cost students any money. Enough is enough!

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## Pro-lifers march on Roe vs. Wade anniversary

by Elizabeth Lieb

On January 22, the anniversary of the Roe v. Wade decision legalizing abortion, tens of thousands of pro-life supporters marched from the White House Ellipse to the Supreme Court.

A rally was held before the march. Several speakers supported the pro-life movement, including members of Congress from Kansas, New York, and Missouri. Speakers talked about plans to again push for the ban on partial birth abortions. Other speakers condemned the recent attack on an Atlanta abortion clinic.

The march began at 1:30 PM following the rally. The pro-lifers walked down Constitution Avenue past several Smithsonian museums and federal office buildings.

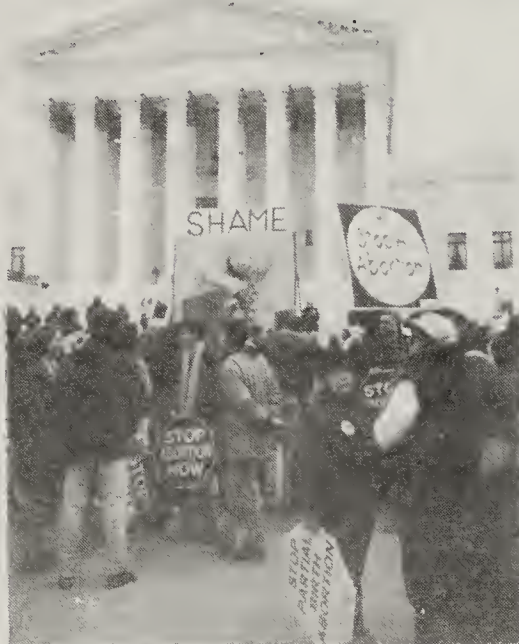


photo by Elizabeth Lieb

Pro-life marchers gather outside the Supreme Court

Many people stopped at the Congressional office buildings hoping to speak with their local representatives.

People of all ages participated in the event. Families, religious leaders, and many young people showed up to

offer their support. Marchers carried signs from churches, colleges, and pro-life organizations from all over the nation. The groups involved included Collegians for Life, Catholics United for Life, and Right to Life of Michigan, along with many others. Participants sang, chanted, prayed, or walked quietly.

The march ended at the Supreme Court, where police in riot gear stood guard on the stairs.

## Chattin named VP of Academic Affairs

by Julia Garcia

On December 20, 1996, Dr. David Chattin was officially named the Vice-President of Academic Affairs. As former Assistant Vice-President of Academic Affairs for eight years, Chattin took on the responsibilities of Vice-President of Academic Affairs while the position was to be filled after Dr. Parker left SJC early last year.

As Vice-President of Academic Affairs, all of the faculty report to Chattin. He also has the responsibility of hiring all faculty as well as evaluating current faculty. The library, computer center, and the registrar's office also report to him.

Chattin has many new ideas for the future. He is currently looking into a program now in effect at other institutions that requires students to perform "service work as part of receiving their degree."

Also, Chattin plans to continue the informal faculty discussion sessions that he coordinated called "Issues in Teaching." "Faculty talk about their teaching techniques... what works... what doesn't," stated Chattin. Most importantly, Chattin's goal is to help faculty do their jobs and become better faculty by providing the resources to do so.

## Admissions office plans visitation days

by Becky Johnson

The admissions office is planning several visitation days for prospective students. "This year's visitation days at Saint Joseph's College will follow a stream-lined process", stated Director of Admissions Frank Bevec. Visitation days are a great way to introduce the atmosphere of the college to incoming students.

"The visitation days usually consist of the following:

President Shannon's welcoming speech, a campus tour, workshops on financial aid, the Career Center Services (tutoring, counseling, and academic support), a panel of current students' involvement and their personal perspectives and finally a luncheon," stated Bevec.

During the luncheon the visiting students are categorized with other people that will be experiencing the

same studies.

"During visits, students also experience the library tour, Core building, Halleck Center with Representatives from counseling (Joan Cramer), Sister Linda, Campus Life (Teresa Ping) and the Career Center (Linda Bevec)," stated Bevec.

"The Admissions Staff appreciates cooperation across campus for dealing with visitors," stated Bevec.

## Bookstore enforces return policies

by Natalie Berenda

As students returned to buy books for second semester courses they found the book return policy strongly enforced. This policy is not new to SJC students but the procedure to return books in the past was more relaxed.

The return policy may be found on page 43 in the Puma Guide. The acceptable reasons for returning a book include a dropped class or picking up the wrong book.

The Puma Guide states that a student wishing to return a textbook because of a dropped course must present their sales slip and Drop/Add slip from the registrar's office.

If you bought the wrong book, the Puma Guide states that you must present your sales slip and registration form, showing proof you are not registered for the course

you are returning your text for.

Although this may seem a bit extreme to some, there are many factors leading to this policy. "Students would bring books back two, three, or four weeks into the semester," stated book store director, Phyllis Mingear. By that time books would be restocked and the book store would be stuck with the extra books, which resulted in the loss of money.

General book sales have been a little slower but just as high as in the past. Mingear is glad to see that students are being more cautious about buying the text.

"I know that this procedure probably upset some students but they have to understand that this is a business and I am expected to run it like one," Mingear stated.

## Three new professors join faculty

by Ashley Pierce

With a new semester beginning, some additions to the faculty of Saint Joseph's have been made. One addition has been made to the full time staff; Dr. Chau-Ming Wong has been added to the psychology department.

Wong received her Ph.D from the University of Notre Dame. Before coming to Saint Joe, she taught at Kalamazoo in Michigan. This semester, Wong is teaching four psychology courses.

Wong enjoys the atmosphere at Saint Joseph's. "The students are very nice and

they work very hard," she commented.



photo by Cynthia Stanko

Dr. Wong joins the Psych Dept.

Two part time professors, Phil Thompson and William Zimmer, have joined the SJC staff. Thompson is currently

teaching Core 2.

Zimmer, who also teaches at Rensselaer Central High School, is instructing a course in the education department. Zimmer has been teaching at RCHS for 12 years. In addition to his high school courses, Zimmer is instructing an SJC class in Science Methods.

Zimmer commented that he has found his experience at Saint Joe to be quite worthwhile. "I've enjoyed it. I've got a small class and we've had a great time," Zimmer stated.



# A Puma in Palestine

by Willy Walsh with Heidi Jugovic

*Saint Joseph's College alumnus, Willy Walsh, has wandered far from the corn fields of Rensselaer. In 1985 Walsh, a stellar student, graduated from St. Joe's and went on to Harvard Law School. For the past two years Walsh has been living and working in Palestine as a newspaper editor, a writer for a joint Israeli-Palestinian think tank, an expert for the United States Agency for International Development, and a part of the Mandela Institute (a human rights organization).*

*Walsh's experiences in Palestine have given him a unique perspective on a situation which makes the news on a regular basis. What follows is Walsh's perspective on the situation in Palestine told in his own words:*

I was a Palestinian sympathizer before I thought about coming here. I don't know why or where this started, because I sympathized with Israel after the attack at the Munich Olympics in 1972. I suspect that Dr. Phil Posey, who made me read Don Peretz's "The Middle East Today", changed my mind. This is far from being the worst conflict in the world. I think Israel is safer than America, and actuarial tables on the rates of violent death would confirm this. The Israelis are not the worst oppressors about, nor the Palestinians the fiercest terrorists. It is what this place, the cradle of the three great monotheisms, represents that makes the conflict so compelling and profoundly fascinating.

The Palestinians gained a consciousness as a people when they came into conflict with Zionism. They have been, I think, unjustly colonized and dispossessed. Their

story is part of that of the Arab world, which has been humiliated by seven hundred years or so of defeat and subjugation. The irony is that the newly "liberated" Arab world remains mired in corrupt autocracy and the Palestinians find themselves demeaned and bullied by the only democracy in the region....

I have a better understanding of the dilemma of the Jews now. History is a nightmare from which they have been unable to awake, and Zionism was a dream of deliverance. As a Christian I am intrigued by its Biblical foundations. The text is never perfectly clear, but I have to believe that there is something special about the Jews -- and about their attachment to this land. That a dispersed and defeated people should maintain their identity and yearning for this land for 2,000 years is astounding. That they should provide the foundations of Western civilization as described by CORE and re-emerge in the past two centuries to make the massive contribution to modernity they have makes me want to seek explanations in the revelations of scripture. However, experiences like the Holocaust and the ghetto are unlikely to ennoble the human spirit. They rather make one paranoid and ruthless. Zionist Jews (many religious Jews are bitterly anti-Zionist because "the Messiah has not come yet") seek the culmination of their struggles and a refuge. But repose is not our destiny. I do not think it will be possible for them to maintain a Jewish state in the Middle East through the next century without committing crimes of which they would be mightily ashamed.

But maybe those who say we approach the end of days

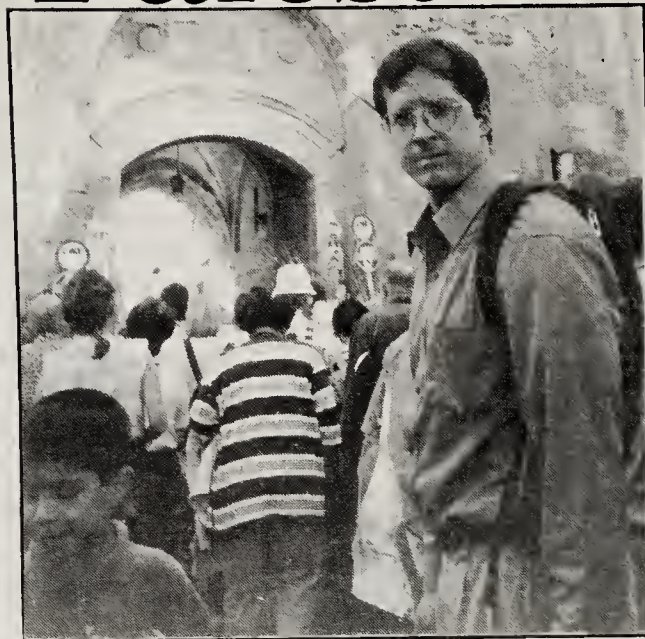


photo courtesy of Mrs. Alice Walsh  
Willy Walsh near the old Jerusalem Wall, Alasmat Door, during the celebration of the "Sunday Psalm."

are correct. Who knows.

I am not an admirer of the "peace process" my government is advancing. A petty Arab dictatorship is being enforced upon a people who have had a bitter struggle for dignity. The Americans and Israelis should know better, but seem to think the Palestinians unworthy or incapable of anything better. The injustice of this situation is not the relative disparity in wealth and freedom, but the absolute affront to human dignity it presents by denying one people equal rights under the same governing power. The Palestinians are being relegated to pitiful bantustans governed by disreputable bandits. The peace process is the solidification of apartheid.

The important struggle of the next decade is not that between Jews and Palestinians, I think, but within each society. The Palestinians will try to establish a democratic polity and the rule of law (albeit while remaining dominated by Israel). The Israelis will fight among themselves over having a secular democratic state or a religious nationalist one. The

two separate struggles are similar in that they will test the thesis that the movement toward liberal, secular democracies wedded to consumerist capitalism in the world is inevitable. In the next 50 years the struggle between the peoples will be decided by either war or demography. Israel could win a war.

As for myself, I have enjoyed being a witness to history. I have witnessed the re-deployments, most notably at Christmas 1995 in Bethlehem.... This September I witnessed the perversely redemptive explosion of gunfire on the edge of Ramallah. I have been moved by religious faith, and fascinated by the swirl of celebrations which dominate the calendar here. Sometimes I feel a little guilty, a voyeur. It has been part of my continuing education. In about a year, I will leave. I want to see more of the world and do other things. I will have spent three years here, the same amount of time I spent at St. Joe's, though the days [here] could not have as much impact on my life as those I spent in Rensselaer.

(A special thanks to Fr. Gerlach who spent a lot of time gathering information for this article.)

## ZERO

### TOLERANCE: *In Effect for Indiana*

by Peggy McLeish

This fall, President Clinton urged states to begin giving stricter discipline for underage drinking. He called for legislation to be improved regarding possession as well as consumption of alcohol by minors. To help give incentives for the states to take action, federal funding from the Transportation Department may be lost if certain criteria are not met.

Many states have begun to develop "zero tolerance" campaigns, including Indiana. In Indiana, the regulations are particularly strict regarding driving under the influence. If drivers under 21 years of age have any alcohol in their system, they risk not only higher fines, but also a suspension of their licenses.

The idea is to teach the public that driving under the influence is not to be tolerated. It is responsible for tremendous amounts of deaths each year: over two thousand in the age group of fifteen to twenty years alone.

The program was publicized particularly over the holiday period, through billboards and television spots. However, the program has not been concluded. It is important for minors to know that there are no breaks when it comes to driving under the influence. There is zero tolerance.



# 1996...In Review...

by Robert Dusek

It was short, but it was sweet. 1996 came and went with a vengeance unlike many years before it. So, while we all scramble to find our place in 1997, we should take a look back and review where we were in 1996.

We, as an institution and all its counterparts, came into 1996 scared and unsure, but nevertheless--happy. Every year, no matter how harsh the outlook, we all start out happily (that's part of the beauty of the New Year's celebration). However, in previous years past, many of us have been worn down and ready for the next year to start when October rolls around.

1996 was a different story, though. Last year, our sports teams paraded around the country, kicking everyone around; the institution hired Frank Bevec, who has (with the help of many others) turned our enrollment situation in the right direction and continues to improve it on a weekly basis; and last year, I got an A- in Dr. White's Core VII class (applause should be held 'til the end of this article).

It seems everyone had a good year last year, especially the athletic teams here at Saint Joe. The Men's baseball team took runner up in the NCAA Division II tournament; the Women's soccer team took number four in the Nation; and the Men's football team set a school record for wins (9-2).

Individually for athletics, we had three All-American Ladies' soccer players, Denise Hutchinson, Mary Reid and Rebekah Breech; and several All-American Men's baseball players,

Jake Chapman, Lou Pinto, Marc Macias, Dom Horgeshimer, and John Fitzgibbon. Laura Witek received All-American for Cross Country and Track.

Let us not forget academics. Last year, in 1996, T.J. Szerencse was honored under the Realizing the Dream program by the Lilly Endowment for her excellence in academics. Last year also, Saint Joseph's college had its first 4.0 valedictorian under the new +/- scale, Eric McKeown. While we are on that topic, we can't forget Becky Fogg, the R.A. who got a 4.0 last semester. (Becky's claim to fame is time management).

In 1996, Saint Joe's mock trial team went to the Silver Flight Nationals, led by Mark Sansone, who placed 12th at the Silver Flight among approximately 360 other lawyers. (Mark would like to extend a congratulations and thank you to his expert witness, William Shannon, and Judge Robert Monfort).

Also in 1996, we had two very successful teams participate in the regional competition of the Model United Nations (sort of a mock meeting of the United Nations). Peg McLeish and Jason Deerwester won Best Delegation, and Klaudia Janek and Rachel Hempel won first runner up for Best Delegation.

1996 brought big success for several other campus groups and individuals as well. The Student Union Board, for the fifth straight year, earned the honors of All Star Delegation at the annual conference they attend for planning school activities (National Association for Campus Activities). The men of Gallagher Hall also deserve a grand round of applause for the efforts they put forth to better their dorm environment.

Habitat for Humanity put their best foot forward in 1996 too, with their building of the first Habitat house in the community.

We must also recognize the Saint Joe student athletes who received Academic All-American for their particular sports; Larry Satkoski and Jake Chapman for baseball and Laura Witek for Track.

I could add another paragraph here telling you about the forensics team, the growing Minority Student Union, the increasingly aware Day Students (a lounge!), the several students inducted into Alpha Lambda Delta (the national freshman honor society), the winners of the Student Teacher Excellence awards, our ever-improving band, and our extremely successful alumni, but I can't possibly fit it all in this piece.

So, it sounds like Saint Joe really turned things around last year, doesn't it? Well, I wouldn't be so quick to say that. Saint Joe students have always excelled academically, as well as communally. There have also been many successful sports teams that this college has been proud to call Pumas.

However, last year was special because the success was so campus-wide. We're bringing in more students now and we're showing everyone what it means to live here in rural Indiana with nothing better to do than grow closer to one another and work ourselves half to death.

What is all this? This is just a reminder of the good things about this place. We need to extend those things into this next year, (like our friend Tim Wozny has) and do it all over again

## Ear Wacks



by Brian Zimmer

Rock n' Roll has been a constant in our society for two entire generations and has served as witness and played a part in many a social and political upheaval. It has evolved and revolved in so many different ways and assimilated with so many different forms of music that it has made it increasingly more difficult to classify.

There are a few things that make Rock n' Roll the music that it is; they can be broken down into two categories: music and lyrical.

The music of Rock n' Roll has always been driven, at least in some remote way, by the guitar. Try to imagine K.D. Lang or ZZ Top without a guitar - Guh! Many times, like the case of Silverchair, the guitar doesn't even have to be good (but in their case, what is?)

Speaking of things that don't always have to be good, what about the lead vocals of Rock n' Roll. Although I love Archers of Loaf, lead vocalist Eric Bachmann leaves a bit to be desired in the realm of singing

The music of Rock n' Roll is also identifiable by the influences. All of them from, Blue Grass to Classical.

All through the ages (both of them), the lyrics of Rock n' Roll have always been driven by four basic topics: love and/or sex, drugs, fast cars, and, angst. I am not contending that these words or topics are in every song, but they at least had a hand in inspiring the lyrics.

Well, there's something to think and argue about, here is some music to consider.

Redd Kross "Show World" I have been waiting for this album for a long time.

With so much snob value around this band and having missed the bus several years ago, I have been waiting to reaffirm my vows to this band.

The beginning of "Show World" was a bit disappointing for me because it seemed like the band was trying to fit in to today's heavy guitar sound. Imagine my excitement when that tapered off and the Redd Kross I knew showed up to play. I'm no Don Johnson or a Redd Kross expert, but when songs like "Girl God", "Secret Life," and, "Follow the Leader" come on, I get very excited...in a good way!

"Show World" is very much in the phylum of Ric Ocasek (The Cars, Weezer) and The Rentals. Lets face it; aren't we all suckers for the pop-synth sound. Throw in a cliché (or at least bordering on it) melody and chord progression and it really reminds one of the Beatles (before that Ono chick!)

Red Kross is the Antithesis of Bob Mould or Elvis Costello. They are pop and sometimes cheesy. While this album is not entirely compelling it is still a keeper! Performance 7.6 Originality 7.3 Sound 7.8 Overall 7.6

The World Still Won't Listen A Tribute to the Smiths Quick Overview: Loud Rock and Punk meets Manchester Pop of yesteryear! Fear not for at least this is an honest attempt to put a different spin on a band that is covered too much. Nobody can do Morrissey like Morrissey and these guys don't try, they just kick ass. While the Meatmen butcher "How Soon is Now," I will give them credit for trying a new approach. But bands like H2O, Slapshot, and, Down by Law, rock to the songs that many thought were wimpy. This isn't for you Natalie Merchant fans, so for God's sake be careful! Overall I thought it was pretty cool and novel. 6.7



## Freshman guard displays "strange" talent

by Jamie Riberto

No stranger to the basketball court, freshman guard, Mark Strange, is a familiar face on the Saint Joseph's men's basketball team this year. Mark is from Brownston, which is a small town no bigger than Rensselaer, located in southern Indiana. He graduated from Brownston Central High School, where he participated in basketball as well as track.

He has been playing basketball since first grade but did not play on a team until fourth grade. Mark has achieved much success in this game, as he was chosen most valuable player and all-conference his junior and senior years in high school. He also won the Indiana three point shooting contest his junior year, in addition to being named Honorable Mention All State and Honorable Mention Academic. He considers himself to be competitive and determined.

He decided to attend Saint Joseph's because of the community of students, the professor-to-student ratio, the core program, and basketball. He had heard a lot about how competitive the Great Lakes Valley Conference is because of living in Southern Indiana and wanted to come here and take part in the action. Mark feels that the GLVC conference offers good competition all season long.

Mark was raised in a small family, in which he is the older of two boys. He has a younger brother named Aaron, who is in

eighth grade and who is also a basketball player. His family owns a tree farm for which his mother serves as vice-president, and Mark's dad works hard as a railroad engineer.

Mark not only is a su-

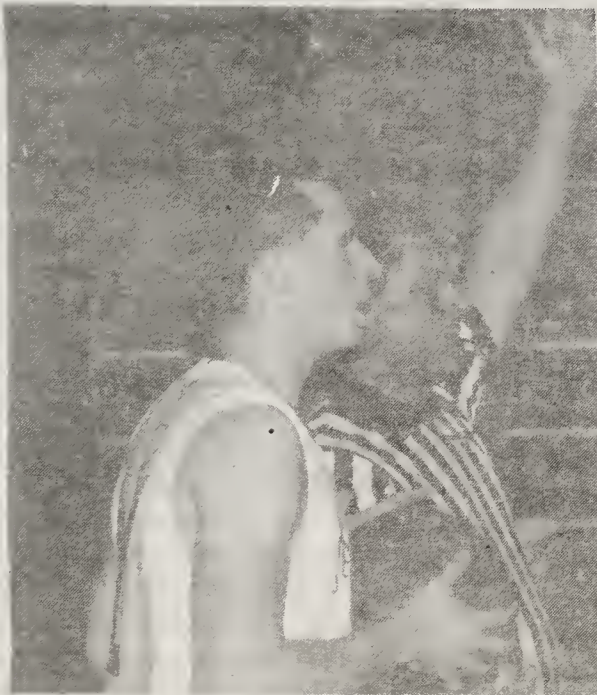


photo by Rachel Hempel

perstar on the basketball court but also in the classroom. He is double majoring in Management Marketing Information Systems and was very excited to receive straight A's last semester as a freshman. As for Mark's plans for the future, he hopes to graduate from Saint Joseph's College and get a job in Managing or Marketing in Chicago because he wants a change from a small city to a much larger one.

The 6'1 freshman has already made an impact on the team here. He has had an opportunity to play varsity a lot and has already had a career high of eighteen points for the Pumas versus the University of Missouri, St. Louis. In his opinion, he feels that his main game is shooting three pointers; he feels that he is a shooter.

The most exciting game he has played in this year was against the University of Indianapolis, which is ranked third in the nation.

He liked the amount of action and how team members did their part to keep Saint Joe in the game.

Some goals Mark has set for himself in regard to basketball is that he wants to help out as much as he can with the team. He feels that the team keeps improving and he wants to play solid so he can contribute as much as he can. He looks up to seniors, Ryan Davis and Chad Pulver and would like to do his part to pick up a couple of wins to end their careers.

One thing Mark feels very strongly about is that playing basketball teaches him to rely on others and will help

him with life and getting along with others, not only in relationships but in the work force. He is really big on being a team player in all situations and hopes his experiences with basketball will carry on with him years down the road. "Basketball has made me more disciplined at work habits and the game. I hope I can look back at basketball in the future and all that it has taught me. One of the best decisions I have made is playing basketball."

Coach Bland is very pleased with Mark's performance on the basketball court. "I am happy with Mark's play and surprised with how effective he has been as a freshman. He is a real strong player and doesn't back down from a challenge. We knew he could play offense but he is really improving on his defense. His ability to move the ball is great and we are excited and looking forward for the rest of the year and his four-year career here."

## A word from...

## The Sportsland

(This column will now be appearing in every issue.)

by Matt Carter

When I say the name Dennis Rodman, what do you think of? Most people, when they are asked that question, think of wedding dresses and body piercing. Recently the "worm" was involved in another incident that once again drew attention to himself. I am talking about the supposed groin kicking of a camera man. Even though that looked a little acted-out, it still is a great example of what a menace that Rodman is.

Let's think back to the mid-80's. Rodman was a part of the Detroit "Bad Boys". He was a young and aggressive rebounder who played right along with the image of a trouble maker. Along with Bill Lambier and company, the Pistons made themselves part of one of the greatest eras for professional basketball.

During this time, Rodman was still one of the league leaders in rebounders. He also didn't wear dresses or have over 100 tatoos. Where am I going with this? I'll tell ya.

His image of being a trouble maker led to his eventual trade to the San Antonio Spurs. Not only did he change teams, but he was flat broke. Before leaving for his new team, he filed for chapter 11 bankruptcy protection. He also found a new manager and financial advisor. He once again

was a great rebounder, but the money wasn't flowing in like he expected.

Right around this time is when he started to lash out. Out came the colored hair, the dresses, tattoos, and the huge ego. He had now found his gimmick.

How can a person change that fast? It is all an act. Dennis Rodman knows exactly what he is doing. He is making a ton of money looking and acting like a freak. Now that he is in Chicago, he makes even more money. He found the only other city, besides Los Angeles, where he fits right in. The people of Chicago put up with his little freak show.

Personally, I find that Rodman is embarrassing. I think that he is just putting on a circus and ruining the game of professional basketball. In an era of weakened teams and a weakened league, Rodman is making basketball more like a side show starring Krusty the Clown.

Personally I wouldn't want Rodman or his antics on my team. As John Wooden once said, "Specialized players come and go. There is always going to be somebody who does your skill better. Well-rounded players become legends."

Rodman can rebound very well and even score if he needs to. When Chicago and the NBA decide to stop this circus show, someone will once again be a great rebounder. They will fade away as well.

What I am saying is that Rodman should cool down and play basketball or find himself a talk show to host.



## Women's basketball making the most of a youthful team

by Erin Breetzke

The Saint Joseph's College women's basketball team currently has a record of 4-10 (3-5 in the conference), and they are improving game by game. Though the team is extremely young this year, they are skilled and competitive.

Over half of this year's women's team consists of freshmen, with no seniors. This fact has been both positive and negative for the team.

"We're young. It's a negative now because there isn't a lot of experience. There's not a lot of time to watch the game and observe, just get on the court and play," Junior point guard Becky Fogg explained.

Though they are young, there are many strengths within this team's framework. Attitude, consistency and vigor seem to be what holds them together.

"We have been fairly consistent with our shooting

and even though we are very young we have a nucleus of players who are playing with a lot of desire, intensity and determination," Coach Lynn Plett commented.

Even with such strength in the inner-workings of the team, weaknesses can be seen as well. Inconsistency and loss of concentration continue to plague the team. "We have not had consistent play from our inside players either on offense or defense," Coach Plett explained.

Junior forward/center

Tammy Williams believes one of the team's weaknesses is lack of concentration. "We have a tendency to lose concentration. We need to concentrate in the whole

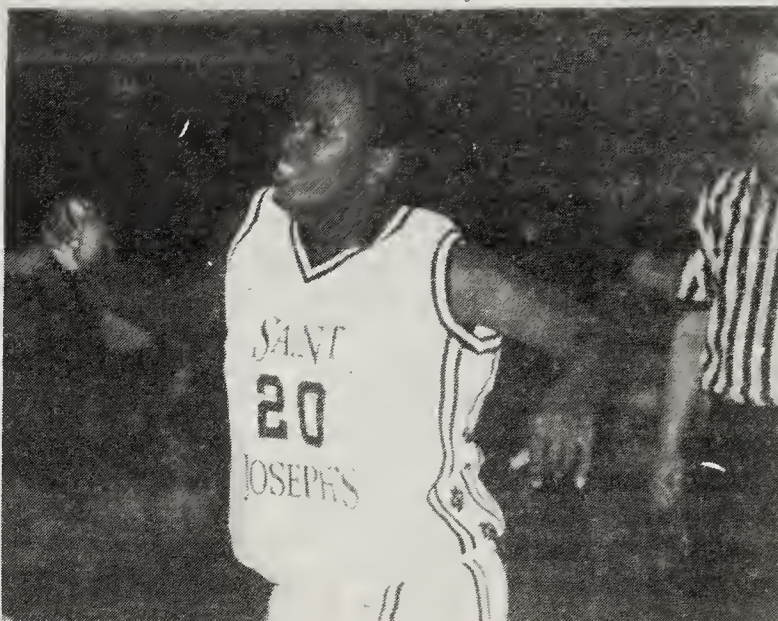
playing skills. Injuries have caused eight players to be temporarily and permanently kept out of games. This demands greater improvement among the other players. "With every

game we get a little better and we just need to keep making strides like that," Junior guard Jessica Henry commented.

Coach Plett agrees that improvement is being made with every game. "The girls are steadily improving and gaining confidence as the season progresses and I am very

pleased with their attitudes and desire to improve," he stated. By working on these improvements and concentrating on strengthening their strong points and lessening their weaknesses, there is a general consensus among the women basketball players that this will be a successful season.

"If we play with consistency and intensity like we did when we played the University of Indianapolis, we should finish close to winning half of our games left," Freshman Monica Claridge speculated. Williams believes numbers and records are not the only signs of a successful season. "It doesn't matter as long as we go in and play hard and we have a successful team," she explained. "A record is not always indicative of a good team."



Junior hoopster Tammie Williams wants another win.

game," she explained.

With half of the season still left, constant improvements are continuing within the team's attitude and

ment is being made with every game. "The girls are steadily improving and gaining confidence as the season progresses and I am very

## Injuries and stiff competition contribute to men's slow start

by Kevin Collins

The men's Puma basketball team is having a bit of a difficult time getting the ball to bounce its way. The men have been traveling a rocky road to their record of 2-14 overall and 0-9 in the Great Lakes Valley Conference.

The Pumas have played many games this season well and had a chance to win at the end of the game, but they keep coming up a little short at the final buzzer. This can be attributed to the fact that the Pumas have lost some important players due to injuries and grades.

Chad Patterson suffered a stress fracture in his foot and had to be medically red-shirted. Hiram Thomas is out with a knee injury, and

Goldie Ashford is academically ineligible.

The level of competition is also consistently stiff--three of Saint Joe's last four opponents are ranked in the top twenty in the nation for Division II (Southern Indiana (10th), Indianapolis (3rd), and Northern Kentucky (17th)). This fact has the GLVC rated as the top conference in the country for Division II.

The men, like the women, are also a young team with six freshman. This group of young men have been expected to carry a lot of responsibility. The group of freshman includes Mike Huseman from Lowell, IN, Mark Strange from Brownstown, IN, Matt



photo by Klaudia Janek

Senior Chad Pulver fights for a rebound.

Metzger from Lafayette, IN, Greg Taylor from Gary, IN, Jason Hallenbeck from Portage, IN, and Mick Mancuso from Cedar Lake, IN.

The team also has a new assistant coach this year with the addition of Bill Stauffer from Delphi, IN.

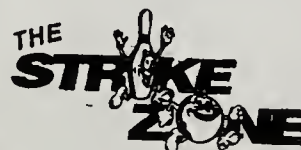
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# Christmas Dinner with Lady Macbeth

by Mike Nichols

Every year for Christmas my parents, my brother, and I have visited my grandparents' house hundreds of miles away. Despite the fact that many of my relatives also descend on this house, I always end up fighting boredom. The last few weeks of school at college student had ended roughly, so I was actually looking forward to getting a break from such dramas. Sitting in my grandparents' guest room making fun of "A Walton Christmas," I had been able to do just that, at least, until my older brother Malcolm stormed in.

"Donnie, you won't believe what I just heard!"

"Most likely not," I said.

"Aunt Sophie's changing the seating arrangements around so that her brat kids sit at the dining room table and we have to sit at the card tables in the living room. It's diabolical! Sophie says it's no big deal. Give me a break!"

"Do I get to decide where?" I asked while trying to keep my attention on the T.V. Malcolm frowned severely. "I'm sorry, I guess I'm just more concerned with how the Waltons are going to

save Christmas than where I'm going to sit tonight."

"All that is required for evil to succeed is for --"

"Good men to do nothing," yes I know, Malcolm, but I hardly think this qualifies as 'evil.'"

"You may be content to let this happen to you, but I'm going to fight it. By God, they'll have to drag me into that living room to sit at that card table."

"I just love seeing you so full of the Christmas spirit."

"I know of only one person who can help us now," Malcolm intoned dramatically. "Grandpa! If we both talk to him, if we join forces as brothers, we can convince him how selfish and sinister Aunt Sophie is. But we must act quickly!"

"You're insane!" I countered. "How much different will food taste in the living room compared to the dining room?"

"It's the principle of it! We're adults now, we've earned the right to sit in the dining room. Besides, I'm certain that Sophie has some ulterior motive."

As it was, "The Waltons"

had just gone to commercial, leaving me with nothing to do, so, despite knowing that I'd regret it, I went with him to talk to Grandpa. We found Grandpa sitting alone in his comfy chair in the living room. Malcolm explained how dire the situation was with passionate, beautiful language while I merely rolled my eyes. Once this stunning oration was completed, Grandpa stirred and prepared to speak, but all that resulted was a thunderous snore.

"Oh, my God," I groaned, "he's been asleep the whole time."

"Grandpa's failed us, but there is one last hope," Malcolm whispered desperately. "Maybe, since you have a way with women, if you talk to Sophie you can convince her how wrong this is."

I should have killed him for such a blatantly patronizing remark, yet deep down, nearly every man wants to be told that he has a way with women, and I'd be lying if I said I was any different. Besides, if I did this perhaps Malcolm would let the matter drop.

"Be careful, there be dag-

gers in that woman's smile," he whispered. I found Sophie in the dining room folding napkins.

"Hi, Donnie," she said pleasantly as I walked in.

"I heard you were doing the seating chart for dinner."

"Yes, I am," she said in a soft, warm voice. "I put you and Malcolm in the living room. You've seemed a little down these days and I thought you might not want to be around a lot of people, so I put you in there with your brother." What a sweet, warm, compassionate woman. How could my brother suspect her of something so vile? I smiled and thanked her softly before walking off.

I couldn't wait until the end of dinner to see Malcolm's chagrined face when everything turned out fine. Since those in the dining room were closer, they

were served first, creating a few more minutes for me to sit in anticipation of Malcolm's impending embarrassment. But it was I who became shocked when I saw that, after Sophie's brats had taken their fill, there wasn't much food left besides tuna casserole and warm pickles. I looked in the dining room at Sophie for an explanation and she smiled back at me wickedly, daggers glistening in her eye. She'd planned this all along, and I'd allowed myself to be duped.

"I knew something like this would happen," Malcolm said as he stabbed his fork bitterly into a squishy pickle. "But don't worry, Donnie, we'll have our revenge on this Lady Macbeth. After all, there's always next year." That may be, but the way things are going, I don't think I could survive another drama-filled Christmas.

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## Poems For Christmas

by Rachel Barlage

On Christmas morning, I was sitting in my aunt and uncle's living room watching everyone open presents. My mom, dad, sister Sarah, brother Tony, and I were spending the holidays with relatives in Michigan, and the living room was crowded with people and strewn with discarded wrapping paper. It smelled of coffee and pine. When Uncle Duane opened a magnetic poetry kit, a cry of approval rose from me, my cousin Carin, and her boyfriend Brett. As soon as all of the presents had been opened, we gathered around

the kitchen table and pulled the tiny magnetic words apart. Sarah, Tony, Carin, Brett, Carin's sister Amanda, and I then sifted through the words and began composing masterpieces.

We made an amusing picture, all of us still in our pajamas or sweats, our hair sticking up or piled on our head, our glasses replacing the usual contacts. We huddled in complete concentration. The only words that were spoken were, "I need an 'and'" or "Has anybody seen a 'his'?" Our parents walked in and out of the room, re-

marking about how cute we looked and snapping several pictures.

As I searched through the tiny words, I was amazed at some of the combinations I saw. I realized that unless my eyes had moved over one word and then another, I never would have come up with some of the lines I did. Phrases like "shine in near void," "lust together," "petal swim soar," "sings gorgeous eternity," and "essential mother ache" formed themselves easily in my mind as I arranged the tiny words into semi-lucid lines.

"This really is a good writing exercise," I mused.

"Um-hmmmm."

"I mean, this would be a great writing starter. It helps you to put together combinations of words that you would never think of unless you saw them sitting next to each other on the table. Obviously, the initial poem wouldn't be a masterpiece, but it would be a creative start. With some re-writing—"

"Shhhhhh...."

"Oh, sorry."

No one wanted to hear my theories. They were creating. Carin was the first to finish a

poem. We all took a break from our own compositions as she read it aloud.

"I worship chocolate  
on a hot honey day  
its bare juice on my tongue  
I sweat and drool black  
white rain  
to crush the urge of summer  
may sweet shadows sit  
boil and cry over the raw  
symphony."

We hailed it as a work of genius. The point of these poems wasn't to tell a story, but to sound beautiful and almost liquid as we read them aloud to each other.